

# Guide to the Requirements of the Arizona School Immunization Law for Children Entering School or Child Care in the 2007-2008 School Year

## Reference

Arizona Administrative Code, Department of Health Services - Communicable Diseases. Chapter 6, Article 7, R9-6-701 - 708, Tables 1 & 2, [http://www.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-06.htm](http://www.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-06.htm)  
Proposed changes at [http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin\\_rules/vaccine\\_rules.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/vaccine_rules.htm)

## Why Children Need Shots

The Arizona School Immunization Law requires that children be up-to-date on their immunizations (shots) to attend school or child care. Diseases like measles and whooping cough spread quickly, so children need to be protected before they enter. Most children need shots before starting kindergarten and most high school students will need a dose of a tetanus, diphtheria containing vaccine (ie, Td or Tdap.)

## What Will Be Needed at Registration

The child's immunization record will be needed at registration. It must show the date the child was given each vaccine dose. Children who lack a valid immunization record or any required doses must obtain the doses needed and provide proof of all immunizations prior to school (K-12) entry. Homeless students are allowed a 5 day grace period. Parents of children enrolling in child care must provide proof of all required immunizations within 15 days of entry. If proof of all required immunizations is not provided within 15 days, the child must be excluded from child care until proof is provided.

Number of Immunizations Required to Enter Childcare or School, By Age of Child								
Vaccine	Childcare/Preschool/Pre-K/Head Start						Kindergarten through 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	
	<2 months	2-3 months	4-5 months	6-11 months	12-14 months	15 mo-5 yrs	5-6 years	7+ years
DTaP/DTP/DT		1	2	3	3	4	4-5 One dose must be at 4+ years of age	
Td (Tdap is not required but may be used instead of Td for 1 dose if child is 10+ years of age)								3-5 At least 3 diphtheria/tetanus containing vaccine doses are required & at least 1 dose must be given at 4+ years of age. A booster is required every 10 years
Polio		1	2	2	3	3	4 Not required if Polio #3 was given at 4+ years	
MMR					1	1	2	
Hib		1	2	2-3	2-3	3-4 doses with 1 dose at 12+ months -or- 1 dose at 15+ months	Hib is <u>not</u> required for children 5+ years of age	
Hepatitis B	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3
	A 4 <sup>th</sup> dose of Hep B is required if Hep B #3 was given before 24 weeks of age							
Varicella (chicken pox)					1	1	1	1-2 A 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose is required if dose #1 was given at 13+ yrs of age
	During the 2007-2008 school year, varicella vaccination is required in preschool, childcare, Head Start, Kindergarten, and grades 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9 unless the child has had chicken pox disease. See <b>Implementation Schedule</b> on back to learn when the requirement will be added to other grades.							
Hepatitis A	In <u>Maricopa County Only</u> 2 doses, spaced 6 months apart, are required for children <u>24-71 months</u> of age in child care settings						Hepatitis A is <u>not</u> required for school attendance	

Exemptions to immunization are available in both school and child care settings for medical reasons or laboratory evidence of immunity. Children may also be exempted for personal beliefs in school (K-12) and for religious beliefs in child care settings. Schools and child care centers have the appropriate exemption forms available. Forms are also available at: [http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun/ldr\\_forms.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun/ldr_forms.htm)

# Varicella (Chicken Pox) Immunization Requirement

Children who have not had chicken pox, and are attending child care, preschool, Head Start, kindergarten, and grades 1,2,3,7, 8, and 9 during the 2007-2008 school year are required to show proof of varicella immunization. As displayed in the chart below, two additional grades will be added each year until 2010 when all grades K-12 will be included in the requirement.

Schools and child care centers will accept a parent's report that their child has had chicken pox. Children who have not had chicken pox need to be vaccinated. Parents/Guardians should contact their physician or local health department to arrange for their child to receive the vaccine. Children who receive varicella vaccine at 1-12 years of age need just one dose. Children who receive varicella vaccine beginning at 13+ years of age need two doses, spaced at least 4 weeks apart. If you have questions about varicella vaccine or this requirement, please contact the Arizona Immunization Program Office at (602) 364-3632 or, outside of Maricopa County, (866) 222-2329 (toll-free).

## Implementation Schedule for Varicella Requirement

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Child Care						
Head Start	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kindergarten	x	x	x	x	x	x
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	x	x	x	x	x	x
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade		x	x	x	x	x
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade			x	x	x	x
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade				x	x	x
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade					x	x
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade						x
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	x	x	x	x	x	x
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade		x	x	x	x	x
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade			x	x	x	x
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade				x	x	x
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade					x	x
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade						x

**Note:** Please check the website [http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun/index\\_schchld.htm](http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/immun/index_schchld.htm) in July-August 2007 for announcements of any changes or additions to immunization requirements

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